

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring at least one reservoir, the reservoir for at least intermittent accommodation of at least one fluid in a cooking device with an inner casing, the inner casing including a cooking chamber with at least one fluid inlet and at least one fluid outlet, a ventilation device including at least one fan in the inner casing, at least one drive shaft for the fan and at least one motor for the drive shaft, the ventilation device for the circulation of at least a part of the fluid at least in the inner casing, and a control or regulation device cooperating with the ventilation device and/or a filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device, the method comprising:
evaluating at least one change in a characteristic parameter of the ventilation device by the filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device, the change due to the action of force of an amount of fluid incident on the fan.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein evaluating at least one change in a characteristic parameter includes at least intermittently determining at least one of a rotation speed, a rotation speed fluctuation, a power consumption, a power consumption fluctuation, a current consumption and a current consumption fluctuation of the ventilation device.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

circulating at least a part of the fluid at least in the inner casing through at least one pumping device.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 3, further comprising:

turning on the pumping device at a time point t_0 detecting a reduction of the rotation speed of the fan due to the amount of fluid incident on the fan at a time point t_1 , turning off the pumping device at a time point t_2 , detecting, an increase of the rotation speed by the motor at a time point t_3 , and determining the filling- and/or charge-amount and/or a change of these from the time difference $t_3 - t_1$.

5. (Previously Presented) The Method according to Claim 2 further comprising:

determining at least one of an upper limiting value of the rotation speed and a lower limiting value of the rotation speed.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, further comprising:

determining a time difference from a time span between when the value goes below the lower limiting value and when the value goes above the upper limiting value.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein evaluating at least one change in a characteristic parameter of the ventilation device includes at least one of a device for the introduction of fluid to the inner casing and a device for removing fluid from the inner casing.

8. (Previously Presented) A cooking device comprising:

an inner casing having a cooking chamber with at least one fluid inlet and at least one fluid outlet;

a ventilation device having at least one fan in the inner casing, at least one drive shaft for the fan, and at least one motor for the drive shaft, the ventilation device for the circulation of at least a part of at least one fluid at least in the inner casing;

at least one reservoir for the at least intermittent accommodation of at least the fluid with at least one fluid inlet and at least one fluid outlet;

a filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device for the reservoir; and

a control or regulation device cooperating with at least one of the ventilation device and the filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device, such that

the filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device cooperates with the ventilation device for the determination of at least one parameter characteristic for the amount of fluid incident on the fan.

9. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, wherein the motor cooperates with the control- or regulation device.

10. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, further comprising:

at least one pumping device for circulating at least a part of the fluid at least in the inner casing.

11. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, wherein the characteristic parameter can be determined by evaluation of at least one of a rotation speed, a rotation speed fluctuation, a power consumption, a power consumption fluctuation, a current consumption and a current consumption fluctuation.

12. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 10, wherein in the determination of the characteristic parameter, a pulsing of the

pumping device can be taken into consideration.

13. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, wherein the fluid includes at least one of water in the liquid form, water in the vapor form, and a washing liquor.

14. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, wherein the reservoir is provided in one of the inner casing, a quenching chamber and a boiler of a steam generator.

15. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 14, wherein the inner casing can be filled through at least one of a first fluid inlet cooperating with the quenching chamber, a second fluid inlet cooperating with the boiler and a third fluid inlet cooperating with a water line.

16. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 14, wherein the quenching chamber can be filled through at least one of a fourth fluid inlet cooperating with the inner casing, a fifth fluid inlet cooperating with the boiler and a sixth fluid inlet cooperating with a water line.

17. (Currently Amended) The cooking device according to Claim[[s]] 14 wherein the boiler can be filled through at least one of a seventh fluid inlet cooperating with the inner casing, an eighth fluid inlet cooperating with the quenching chamber and a ninth fluid inlet cooperating with a water line.

18. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 15, wherein at least one of the first fluid inlet is cooperating with at least one of a first shut-off device and/or pumping device, the second fluid inlet is cooperating with a second shut-off device and/or pumping device, the third fluid inlet is cooperating with

a third shut-off device and/or pumping device, the fourth fluid inlet is cooperating with a fourth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the fifth fluid inlet is cooperating with a fifth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the sixth fluid inlet is cooperating with a sixth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the seventh fluid inlet is cooperating with a seventh shut-off device and/or pumping device, the eighth fluid inlet is cooperating with an eighth shut-off device and/or pumping device, and the ninth fluid inlet is cooperating with a ninth shut-off device and/or pumping device.

19. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 14, wherein the inner casing can be emptied through at least one of a first fluid outlet cooperating with the quenching chamber, a second fluid outlet cooperating with the boiler and a third fluid outlet cooperating with a water discharge.

20. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 14, wherein the quenching chamber can be emptied through at least one of a fourth fluid outlet cooperating with the inner casing, a fifth fluid outlet cooperating with the boiler and a sixth fluid outlet cooperating with a water discharge.

21. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 14, wherein the boiler can be emptied through at least one of a seventh fluid outlet cooperating with the inner casing, an eighth fluid outlet cooperating with the quenching chamber and a ninth fluid outlet cooperating with a water discharge.

22. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 19, wherein at least one of first fluid outlet is cooperating with a tenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the second fluid outlet is cooperating with an eleventh shut-off device and/or pumping device, the third fluid outlet is cooperating with a twelfth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the fourth fluid outlet is cooperating with a thirteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the fifth fluid outlet is cooperating with a fourteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the sixth fluid outlet is

cooperating with a fifteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the seventh fluid outlet is cooperating with a sixteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, the eighth fluid outlet is cooperating with a seventeenth shut-off device and/or pumping device, and the ninth fluid outlet is cooperating with an eighteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device.

23. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 18, wherein at least one of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device include at least one valve.

24. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 18, wherein at least one of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device can be actuated through the control- or regulation device, especially always as a function of a comparison of the actual value of the characteristic parameter with at least one target value for the characteristic parameter.

25. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 24, wherein the pulse ratio of at least one of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device can be adjusted, especially controlled or regulated through the control- or regulation device.

26. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 8, wherein the filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring device includes the ventilation device.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein circulating at least a part of the fluid includes pulsing the pumping device.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, further comprising:

compensating for the reduction of the rotation speed by at least partly increasing power consumption by the motor and wherein detecting an increase of the rotation speed includes detecting an increase especially due to said compensation.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein determining at least one of an upper limiting value of the rotation speed and a lower limiting value of the rotation speed is performed as a function of at least one of a pulsing of the pumping device, an amount of fluid introduced into the inner casing, an amount of fluid removed from the inner casing, a dimension of the cooking device, accessories in the cooking device and of a loading of the inner casing with cooking product.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein determining a time difference from the time span between when the value goes below the lower limiting value and when the value goes above the upper limiting value is performed as a function of at least one of a pulsing of the pumping device, and a purpose of filling- and/or charge-amount-monitoring.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein adjusting at least one of a device for the introduction of fluid to the inner casing and for removing fluid from the inner casing includes one of controlling and regulating the device.

32. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 9, wherein the motor is an electrically commutated motor.

33. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 10, wherein the pumping device cooperates with the control- or regulation device to adjust at least one of a pump output and a pulsing of the pumping device.

34. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 12, wherein the pulsing of the pumping device is taken into consideration by evaluating a time span between a first reduction of the rotation speed after turning on the pumping device and a first increase of the rotation speed after turning off the pumping device.

35. (Previously Presented) The cooking device according to Claim 26, wherein the control- or regulation device at least partly, whereby the filling and/or charge-amount-monitoring device, also includes at least one of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth shut-off device and/or pumping device.